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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Shunpei YAMAZAKI

Serial No. 09/619,477

Filed: July 19, 2000

For: CONTACT STRUCTURE AND  
SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE

) Group Art Unit: 2813

) Examiner: E. Kielin

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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Honorable Commissioner of Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Please consider the following amendments and remarks in connection with the above-identified application.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 11 of this paper.